

Art Unit: 2627

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael E. Belk on 03/19/2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

- In claim 1, line 5; "(3 to 8; 9 to 12)" has been changed to --(3 to 8 or 9 to 12)--.
- In claim 2, line 4; "(3 to 8; 9 to 12)" has been changed to --(3 to 8 or 9 to 12)--.
- In claim 3, line 2; "(3 to 8; 9 to 12)" has been changed to --(3 to 8 or 9 to 12)--.

Reasons for Allowance

3. Claims 1-17 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

- With regard to independent claim 1, as the closest reference of record, Schatteman et al (US 4,447,900) discloses a disk drive comprising a disk engaging member connected to a drive shaft for engaging and rotating the disk during operation and a tray for supporting the disk when out of engagement with the disk engaging member, and further comprising a turning mechanism adapted to provide a force to the side of the disk resting on the tray and in a position outside its center so as

Art Unit: 2627

to provide an upward and rotating movement to the disk in order to turn it over; **but fails to show** providing a **pulse** to the side of the disk resting on the tray and in a position outside its center so as to provide an upward and rotating movement to the disk in order to turn it over.

- With regard independent claim 14, as the closest reference of record, Schatteman et al (US 4,447,900) discloses a method of turning a disk positioned on a tray in a disk drive, comprising the steps of: freeing the space above the disk, if necessary, providing a force to the disk in a position outside its center so as to turn the disk over and receive it on the tray again in an upside-down position; **but fails to show** providing **an impulse** to the disk in a position outside its center so as to turn the disk over and receive it on the tray again in an upside-down position.
- Applicant asserts; this invention provides a method of turning the disk over is quite simple and leads to a relatively simple disk drive. Tests have shown that exerting an eccentric pulse on the disk results in flipping the disk, more or less in a pancake fashion, which may be done in a reliable way. Flipping the disk in this way takes only little time, for example about a few tenths of a second, so that this method of turning reduces the amount of buffer memory needed to make a continuous playing and/or recording of both sides of the disk possible. This effectively doubles the capacity of the disk at only a small additional little cost (Specification, p. 1).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Art Unit: 2627

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record in PTO-892 Form and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tianjie Chen whose telephone number is 571-272-7570. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30, Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Art Unit: 2627

/Tianjie Chen/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2627